

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 01488 122318Z  
ACTION ITC-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-07

/029 W

-----085547 130046Z /65

R 100852Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6703

UNCLAS TAIPEI 1488

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BTRD, TW  
SUBJECT: UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION  
REQUEST FOR DATA WATCHES

REF : STATE 018602

1. ROC INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (IDB) REVEALED THAT TAIWAN PRODUCED A TOTAL OF 6,760,000 ELECTRONIC WATCHES (LED AND LCD) IN 1977 WITH OVER 95 PERCENT FOR EXPORT. THERE ARE BELIEVED TO BE ONLY 10 MANUFACTURERS NOW, COMPARED WITH 20 A YEAR AGO. ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE IN DEC. 26, 1977 ISSUE OF TRADE WINDS, EIGHT TO TEN MILLION ELECTRONIC WATCHES MAY BE IN 1978.

2. NO OFFICIAL STATISTICS FOR PRODUCTION OF CONVENTIONAL WATCHES AND WATCH MOVEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. DEANE HILT, GENERAL MANAGER OF TIMEX TAIWAN, ADVISED EMBASSY THAT PRODUCTION AND EXPORT FIGURES SHOULD BE OBTAINED DIRECTLY FROM TIMEX HEAD OFFICE IN U.S.

3. THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL STATISTICS FOR IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF EITHER ELECTRONIC AND CONVENTIONAL WATCHES, BECAUSE THERE IS NO SEPARATE COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION CODE NUMBERS FOR THESE ITEMS. THESE FIGURES MAY BE OBTAINED ONLY THROUGH AN INTENSIVE MARKET SURVEY OF THIS INDUSTRY, ACCORDING TO IDB. IMPORTS OF ELECTRONIC AND CONVENTIONAL WATCHES ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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ESTIMATED AT AROUND 100,000 PIECES PER ANNUM. LOCAL CONSUMPTION, ACCORDING TO TRADE WINDS' ARTICLE PREVIOUSLY CITED, IS ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT 300,000 PIECES DURING 1977.

UNGER  
BT  
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NNN

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE, REPORTS, WATCHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION REQUEST FOR DATA WATCHES  
**TAGS:** ETRD, TW  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014